

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN SEPTEMBER 1999

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in September 1999 increased 2% compared to the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Annualized year-to-date production was 42.3 million metric tons, which was 4% lower than the total production in 1998.

Domestic phosphate rock sold or used, excluding exports for September, decreased 9% from the prior month, to 3.2 million tons. Annualized year-to-date sales or use was 42.3 million tons, about 3% lower than the total for 1998.

U.S. producer ending stocks for September were slightly lower than the figure shown in August.

Some phosphate rock import data for Morocco are suppressed by the Bureau of the Census. U.S. import tonnage was estimated by USGS to average 175,000 tons per month in 1999. September import data were not available at the time of publication.

Annualized domestic consumption for 1999 was calculated to be 43.8 million tons using annualized sold and used data and estimated trade data. Apparent domestic consumption for 1998, calculated from the sum of home deliveries and adjusted import

data, was 45.0 million tons.

On Sept. 17, Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc. (PCS) announced an additional reduction in both DAP and P_2O_5 production at its White Springs, FL, facility in response to weak market conditions. The Suwannee River plant will shut down the DAP line and reduce P_2O_5 output for export markets. This will reduce the company's P_2O_5 production by 90,000 tons annually and DAP production by 275,000 tons annually. Combined with previous reductions announced in August, PCS has reduced its P_2O_5 output by 200,000 tons (Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan, 1999).

Reference Cited

Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc., 1999, Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc. announces further reduction in phosphate production: Saskatoon, Sask., Canada, Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc. press release, September 17, 2 p.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS, BY REGION 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Region and period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks 2/
United States:			
1998:			
September	3,530	3,340	7,940
October	3,800	3,870	7,850
November	3,680	3,510	8,050
December	3,480	3,530	7,920
January - December	44,100	43,400	XX
1999:			
January	3,410	3,400	7,730
February	3,070	3,190	7,600
March	3,500	3,710	7,340
April	3,280	3,640	6,880
May	3,680	3,940	6,620
June	3,690	3,400	6,910
July	3,540	3,610	6,750
August	3,690	3,530	6,920
September	3,770	3,220	6,820
Total	31,600	31,600	XX
Florida and North Carolina:			
1998:			
September	3,080	2,850	6,360
October	3,370	3,320	6,380
November	3,360	3,130	6,660
December	3,110	3,130	6,540
January - December	38,600	37,800	XX
1999:			
January	2,970	2,990	6,420
February	2,760	2,840	6,330
March	3,120	3,290	6,100
April	2,780	3,150	5,620
May	3,100	3,340	5,380
June	3,030	2,940	5,430
July	2,980	3,010	5,300
August	3,080	3,070	5,320
September	2,690	2,700	5,300
Total	26,500	27,300	XX
Idaho and Utah:			
1998:			
September	456	494	1,590
October	434	555	1,460
November	312	384	1,390
December	368	403	1,380
January - December	5,490	5,670	XX
1999:			
January	436	413	1,310
February	314	352	1,280
March	375	412	1,240
April	499	483	1,260
May	582	604	1,240
June	662	461	1,480
July	563	602	1,440
August	614	459	1,600
September	1,080	520	1,530
Total	5,130	4,310	XX

XX Not applicable.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK 1/ 2/ 3/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value
1998:		
August	65	3,930
September	62	3,440
October	78	5,530
November	--	--
December	62	3,800
January - December	806	42,400
Total year 4/	1,760	92,700
1999:		
January	60	3,280
February	63	3,420
March	68	3,670
April	66	4,000
May	69	4,110
June	64	3,820
July	1	69
August	88	5,000
Total	479	27,400

1/ C.i.f. (cost, insurance, and freight) values at U.S. ports.

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Data for the current month were not available at time of publication.

4/ Includes estimate for data suppressed by Bureau of the Census.

Source: Bureau of the Census; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	1997	1998	1999 1/
Marketable production:			
Florida and North Carolina	39.8	38.7	35.4
Idaho and Utah	6.1	5.5	6.9
Total 2/	45.9	44.2	42.3
Sold or used by producers:			
Florida and North Carolina	36.6	38.0	36.5
Idaho and Utah	5.5	5.6	5.8
Total 2/	42.1	43.7	42.3
Yearend stocks	7.9	7.9	6.8
Exports 3/	0.3	0.4	0.3
Average value per ton	\$34.80	\$42.70	\$48.30
Imports for consumption e/	1.8	1.8	2.1
Average value per ton	\$50.19	\$52.66	NA
Apparent consumption e/ 4/	43.6	45.0	43.8

e/ Estimated. NA Not available.

1/ Annualized data.

2/ Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

3/ Source: Bureau of the Census.

4/ Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports minus exports.

TABLE 4
MOROCCAN
PHOSPHATE ROCK EXPORTS 1/
JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 1999

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination	Quantity
Australia	163
Austria	82
Belgium	418
Brazil	185
Bulgaria	94
France	652
Germany	110
Greece	190
India	216
Iran	227
Ireland	3
Italy	49
Japan	157
Korea, Republic of	205
Mexico	1,370
Netherlands	1
New Zealand	242
Pakistan	213
Peru	25
Poland	336
Romania	169
Serbia and Montenegro	200
Spain	1,510
Taiwan	48
Thailand	32
Turkey	16
United States	1,700
Uruguay	5
Venezuela	138
Total	8,760

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to total shown.

Source: Office Cherifien des Phosphates--
Casablanca, Morocco